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LETTER DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the letter of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan addressed to you, dated 23 September 1996.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. G. Ravan FARHÂDI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 23 September 1996 from the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General

Following the earlier communications of the Islamic State of Afghanistan regarding the interventions of Pakistani circles in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, causing the continuation and aggravation of armed conflicts and disturbances in the country, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that recently these continuous interventions are becoming more open and manifest.

The recent course of events in the East of Afghanistan, including the fall of Jalâl-âbâd, a city which was considered as an area of peace, temporary location of the United Nations and some international agencies as well as centre of inter-Afghan dialogue on 11 September 1996, clearly demonstrated that these events originated from beyond Afghanistan borders. Pakistan is being transformed into the major source of intervention and aggression against the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of Afghanistan.

Reliable information confirms that about 1,200 Pakistani commando soldiers are directly participating in fighting in the Kunar valley in support of the Taliban.

Eyewitness civilians have attested the fact that more than 600 Pakistani militiamen are engaged alongside the Taliban in Maidân-Shahr, the capital of Wardak Province, south-west of the capital, Kâbul.

Radio communications and exchange of information between the Taliban armed groups recorded by the Afghan Ministry of Defence prove the coming of the armed militia from beyond borders.

I ask Your Excellency to promptly send a fact-finding mission to observe and witness the presence of Pakistani armed groups in those Afghan provinces.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan believes that these acts of aggression, threatening the territorial integrity of a country, are the most serious violation of the universally accepted international norms and principles. Such aggressive acts must not go unpunished by the international community.

While voicing our deep concern about the continuation and the intensification of direct intervention of Pakistani circles against the territorial integrity and the national sovereignty of Afghanistan, we express the hope that Your Excellency, by throwing the weight of your influence, takes serious measures aimed at preventing the broadening and the deepening of this tension in our region.

(Signed) Najibullâh LAFRÂÏE
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs